

committee; and Comrade Anwar, head of the Committee's Palestine section.

During the discussions, the Soviet comrades noted the important role being played by the PFLP in safeguarding the PLO's unity and nationalist line. They reaffirmed their support to the PLO, and at the same time expressed sorrow at the internal difficulties that the PLO is currently facing. They stressed the necessity of the Palestinian people adhering to the unity of the PLO, based on an anti-imperialist, anti-Zionist, national political line.

Concerning the international situation, the Soviet comrades confirmed that the goal of the Soviet Union is to prevent a nuclear war. They explained that the USSR is currently trying to bring peace to many areas of the world where tension now prevails, including the Middle East.

Comrade Abu Ali Mustafa thanked the Soviet comrades for their principled and firm support for the Palestinian and Arab peoples. He added that international support is an essential support in the struggle of the Palestinian people and the Arab masses against Zionist occupation and imperialist aggression and their joint plans for the area.

Comrade Abu Ali explained in detail the dangers which the PLO is currently facing. He clarified the internal struggle which is going on in the PLO between two lines: the rightist line which has no confidence in the future of the Palestinian people's struggle; and the nationalist line which is determined to continue the struggle until the goals of the Palestinian people are achieved. He added that the nationalist line has proven to be correct in view of the recent victories in Lebanon. Comrade Abu Ali also explained the steps that are being taken to preserve the unity of the PLO. He reaffirmed the PFLP's position that differences within the PLO should be overcome through democratic dialogue and not by resorting to arms.

In the discussions with the CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet participants included Comrade Elianovsky, Vice-Chairman of the international

department for Asia and Africa; Comrade Drogen and Comrade Matuzov. Comrade Elianovsky expressed appreciation of the role that the PFLP is playing in the Palestinian arena. He stressed the importance of combatting the conspiracies currently faced by the PLO. He recognized the importance of the Aden initiative as a positive step

towards solving the crisis in the PLO.

Comrade Abu Ali Mustafa reiterated the PFLP position on these questions. He thanked the Soviet comrades for their hospitality and for their support to the Palestinian people. He declared that the viewpoints of the two parties are in agreement, as confirmed by the discussions.

GDR

Comrade George Habash, General Secretary of the PFLP, headed a delegation to the German Democratic Republic in early May. Comrade Basam Abu Sharif, member of the Politbureau and head of the information department of the PFLP, also participated in the dialogue with the German comrades.

A series of meetings was held with the Central Committee of the Unified Socialist Workers Party, the GDR Solidarity Committee and several officials,

among them Comrade Fredan Tran, head of the foreign relations department of the United Socialist Workers Party.

During the discussions, the two parties reaffirmed their position of confronting the US-Zionist aggressive policies in the Middle East and globally. In particular, they confirmed their position on continuing the struggle to guarantee achievement of the rights of the Palestinian people: the right of return, self-determination and establishing an independent Palestinian state.

Cuba

From June 2nd to 9th, a PFLP delegation visited Cuba on an invitation from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba. The delegation was composed of Deputy General Secretary Abu Ali Mustafa, Politbureau member Salah Salah, head of the Political Relations Department, and Comrade Hussein Abdel Azziz.

The PFLP delegation met with Comrade Montane, candidate member of the Politbureau of the Communist Party, and head of its Foreign Relations Department, together with other members of the department. The delegation also met with comrades of the Cuban Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, the Party School, the Center for Africa and Middle East Studies, the Latin America Center and the People's Assembly. The delegation visited Santiago de Cuba. Comrade Abu Ali Mustafa spoke at a mass rally organized by the Arab students in Havana, and held a press conference.

In the meeting with Comrade Montane, Comrade Abu Ali spoke about the current international situation and the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary attacks against the Palestinian and Arab peoples. He discussed in detail the positive results of the recent victories in Lebanon. He pointed to the dangerous results of Arafat's visit to Cairo. He explained the role of the Palestinian left in the efforts to reunite the PLO on a progressive anti-imperialist political line in accordance with the Aden initiative of the Democratic Alliance.

In response, Comrade Montane evaluated very positively the role of the PFLP in the PLO. He affirmed the Cuban position supporting the Palestinian people and their struggle to achieve their national rights, namely the right to return, self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.